

In the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently amended): A composition of matter comprising:  
a solid support;  
a bibulous positively charged substrate; and at least one  
water soluble tetrazolium salt on at least one surface of said positively charged  
substrate,  
wherein the bibulous positively charged substrate is configured as a membrane test  
pad and is affixed to the solid support, and  
wherein the water soluble tetrazolium salt is in a dry state.

Claims 2-3 cancelled.

4. (Original): The composition according to Claim 1, wherein said water soluble  
tetrazolium salt is part of an analyte oxidizing signal producing system.
5. (Original): The composition according to Claim 4, wherein said analyte oxidizing  
signal producing system comprises an analyte oxidase.
6. (Original): The composition according to Claim 4, wherein said analyte oxidizing  
signal producing system comprises an analyte dehydrogenase.
7. (Original): The composition according to Claim 4, wherein said analyte oxidizing  
signal producing system further comprises an electron transfer agent.
8. (Original): The composition according to Claim 4, wherein said analyte oxidizing  
signal producing system further comprises an enzyme cofactor.

9. (Original): The composition according to Claim 4, wherein said analyte oxidizing signal producing system is present as a reagent composition.